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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
(✓) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny  
Exemption(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify: ( ) In Part ( ) In Full  
( ) Classify as \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Extend as \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Downgrade to \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

The Center for Legal and Social Studies (CELS)

The newest of the institutions dedicated to the defense of human rights in Argentina is the Centro de Estudios Legales Y Sociales (CELS). It is a non-profit organization formed on March 14, 1980. Its goals are:

1. To conduct investigations and studies in the area of relations between law and society, directed toward the defense of the dignity of the individual, of the sovereignty of the people, of the welfare of the community - in particular the least-protected sectors - and of the environment.

2. To promote and take administrative and judicial actions aimed at achieving the legal existence of those principles and values. To assume the representation of affected persons or groups.

3. To struggle against violations, abuse, and discrimination that affect people's rights and liberties.

4. To help all initiatives that tend to guarantee peace between peoples and to oppose whatever form of belligerence.

5. To give legal advice on these subjects and to issue publications related to these issues.

The President of CELS is Dr. Emilio Fermin MIGNONE, 57, former Rector of the University of Lujan, officer of the Argentine Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, former Under Secretary of Education (Lanusse Administration), and lawyer. He has visited the U.S. His daughter disappeared in May 1976, and he has been extremely active in human rights affairs ever since.